

CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



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Airtanker Pilot Uninjured After Landing Incident

Hemet – Around 5:40 p.m. this evening a CAL FIRE Airtanker experienced an incident upon landing at the Hemet Ryan Air Attack Base in Riverside County. Though the aircraft, a Grumman S-2T, sustained damage, the pilot was not injured. The airtanker was returning from a small wildfire in the community of Good Hope in Riverside County.

The runway at Hemet Ryan Airport remains closed while CAL FIRE works with the NTSB to investigate the incident.

"This serves as a stark reminder of the danger of our profession," said Chief Ken Pimlott, CAL FIRE director. "We must continue to keep public and firefighter safety a priority, especially during these Red Flag conditions."

As part of its air fleet CAL FIRE owns and maintains 23 S-2T Grumman air tankers. For more information on the S-2Ts: http://www.fire.ca.gov/communications/downloads/fact_sheets/S2T.pdf

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